



(361) 293-5302

JacksPestManagement@Gmail.com

JacksPestManagement.com

BROWN PATCH IN TURF GRASS CONSUMER INFORMATION SHEET

Brown patch is a fungal lawn disease that commonly affects turf grasses. While it can attack any type of grass, it is most commonly seen in St. Augustine, Bermuda, and Zoysia, which are all popular grasses in Texas. Even though brown patch can be a nuisance, it doesn't need to ruin your entire lawn. With a few preventative methods and effective treatment techniques, you can free your lawn from brown patch this season.

How Brown Patch Develops

This lawn disease is caused by a fungus called *Rhizoctonia*. It likes to attack during humid, moist weather when dew periods last longer than 10 hours. It develops most severely when low and high temperatures are above 70 and 90 degrees, respectively. Therefore, it's hardly surprising that it often occurs in summer. This gives brown patch a perfect time frame to invade your lawn right as summer begins.

What Does Brown Patch Look Like?

What usually bothers people most about brown patch is that it brings a very unsightly presence to your yard. It's very likely that you've seen brown patch before, on your own lawn or a neighbor's. In the beginning, brown patch gives the appearance of water stains on your grass. It consists of yellow or tan patches with a darker ring around them (often referred to as a "smoke ring"). In shorter grasses, the rings may appear more gray or purple in color. The disease may start with one patch and then grow and spread into large clusters. Patches can grow up to several yards in diameter.

How to Treat Brown Patch

A minor instance of brown patch is normal and happens to most lawns. However, bigger infestations are worth tackling since they can take over your entire yard.

Fortunately, since brown patch is so common, many effective methods have been developed to treat it. Preventing lawn diseases is quicker, easier, and less expensive than treating them, so developing good lawn care practices ahead of time will save you from a lot of headaches. To both prevent and heal instances of brown patch, water your lawn early in the morning and allow it to dry out during the day. Avoid mowing your grass too short or over-watering it, as brown patch and other lawn diseases thrive on excess moisture. Annually aerating your lawn is a smart move for preventing brown patch, too.

If you are hit with a bout of brown patch, a quality fungicide will control and cure it. There are fungicides specifically marked as treatment for brown patch, so you won't have a tough time finding one.

Summary

Brown patch can be irritating and unattractive in your yard, but with a few simple steps it can be both prevented and treated. For further information, please call Jack's Pest Management, (361) 293-5302.